

*Filing*

Borough of Morpeth



**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER**

**OF HEALTH**

for the Year

**1957**



**ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Morpeth.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my report for the year 1957.

The vital statistics are satisfactory. The standard birth rate is higher, and the standard death rate is lower than the corresponding rates for England and Wales.

There were only two deaths in infants under 1 year and this gives a death rate of only 10.31 per 1,000 live births, which is probably the lowest on record. The national rate was 25.

Only 6 new cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified, half the number notified in the previous year. One new case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis occurred. There was only one death from respiratory tuberculosis, and deaths from malignant neoplasms declined from 33 in 1956 to 26 in 1957.

The slum clearance programme continued to make good progress and should certainly be completed well ahead of schedule.

The continuing growth in the population makes the provision of the proposed extensions at the sewage works more urgent than ever and it is regrettable to have to report that another year has passed without the work being started.

I should like, in conclusion, to thank the members of the Council for the consideration they have shown me and to express my great appreciation of the work of the Public Health Inspectors and the ready co-operation received from the officials of all departments of the Council.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors.

Your obedient Servant,

**C. B. McGREGOR,**  
M.B., D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health  
Borough of Morpeth.



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## OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Medical Officer of Health .....	CATHERINE B. McGREGOR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officer .....	KATHLEEN DICK, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.
Public Health Inspector .....	FRANK K. PERKINS, M.I.M., & C.E., M.R.S.H.
Additional Public Health Inspector (Meat) ...	J. G. SIMPSON, M.A.P.H.I.
Offices of the Medical Officer .....	146 Station Road, Ashington.
Telephone .....	Ashington 2287.
Offices of the Public Health Inspector .....	36, Bridge Street, Morpeth.
Telephone .....	Morpeth 36.

## SECTION A

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The area of the Borough remained unchanged in 1957 but the Registrar-General estimates that the population again showed an increase, this time by 250, to a total of 11,050.

Much of this increase is due to the development of building estates by private enterprise, with a resulting influx of new residents from other areas.

The traffic problem referred to in the report for 1956 is still unsolved and is becoming more acute with each passing year.

Area in Acres .....	2,213
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population mid-1957 .....	11,050
Rateable Value .....	£473,15,10
One Penny Rate produces .....	£118,146
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1957) .....	3278

#### VITAL STATISTICS

##### BIRTHS

The figures in brackets are the rates for England and Wales.

Live Births:	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate .....	188	97	91
Illegitimate .....	6	4	2
	194	101	93

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population .....	17.56	(16.6)
Standard Birth Rate (Comparability Factor 1.04) .....	18.26	

Still Births:	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate .....	5	1	4
Illegitimate .....	1	—	1
	6	1	5

##### Still Birth Rate:

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births .....	30.00	(22.6)
Rate per 1,000 of the population .....	0.54	

##### DEATHS

Total—177.      Male—87.      Female—90.

Death Rate per 1,000 of the population .....	16.02	(12.2)
Standard Death Rate (Comparability Factor 0.72) .....	11.53	
Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Heading 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion .....	Nil	
Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births .....	Nil	

##### Death Rate of Infants under 1 year:

All Infants per 1,000 live births .....	10.31	(25.0)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births .....	10.64	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births .....	Nil	
Deaths from Measles (all ages) .....	Nil	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .....	Nil	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) .....	Nil	

## INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1957

Cause of Death	Under	1 - 6	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	Total	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 9	10 - 12	Total
	1 day	days	weeks	weeks	weeks	under 1 month	mths	mths	mths	mths	under 1 year
Cerebral Meningitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Prematurity .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Total	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2

The following table shows the comparative mortality rates during the past ten years:

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Infantile Deaths under 1 year .....	9	10	7	5	7	3	8	4	7	2
Infantile Mortality per 1,000 live births	43.60	54.35	34.48	23.81	33.49	15.79	38.10	19.51	34.48	10.31

The Registrar-General supplies the following:

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1957

	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory .....	—	—
2. Tuberculosis (other forms) .....	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease .....	—	—
4. Diphtheria .....	—	—
5. Whooping Cough .....	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections .....	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis .....	—	—
8. Measles .....	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases .....	1	1
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach .....	3	—
11. Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus .....	1	2
12. Malignant Neoplasm, breast .....	—	5
13. Malignant Neoplasm, uterus .....	—	—
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms .....	8	7
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia .....	—	—
16. Diabetes .....	—	1
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System .....	7	11
18. Coronary Disease, Angina .....	14	10
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease .....	1	3
20. Other Heart Diseases .....	18	31
21. Other Circulatory Diseases .....	3	3
22. Influenza .....	—	—
23. Pneumonia .....	5	2
24. Bronchitis .....	6	2
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System .....	—	1
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum .....	1	—
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea .....	—	—
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis .....	1	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate .....	—	—
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion .....	—	—
31. Congenital Malformations .....	1	—
32. Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases .....	11	9
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents .....	—	—
34. All other Accidents .....	5	1
35. Suicide .....	1	1
36. Homicide and Operations of War .....	—	—
	<hr/> 87	<hr/> 90

Deaths of Infants under 1 year:

	Male	Female
Legitimate .....	1	1

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1957.

	Total Number	% of Total Deaths
Diseases of the Heart and Circulation .....	83	46.89
Malignant Neoplasms .....	26	14.69
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System .....	18	10.17
	<hr/> 127	<hr/> 71.75

## SECTION B

### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

#### Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at the Newcastle General Hospital and additional facilities are now available at Ashington General Hospital.

The extent to which these facilities have been utilised is shown below:

Specimen sent by	Specimen	Pos.	Neg.
Regional Hospital Board Physician .....	Sputum for B. Tuberculosis .....	3	—
Regional Hospital Board Physician .....	Pus for B. Tuberculosis .....	1	—
General Practitioner .....	Throat Swabs for Vincent's Organisms	—	2
General Practitioner .....	Throat Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci .....	2	4
Medical Officer of Health .....	Swabs for Staphylococci .....	1	6
General Practitioner .....	Swabs for Staphylococci .....	1	3
General Practitioner .....	Throat Swabs for C. Diphtheriae .....	—	3
Medical Officer of Health .....	Faeces for Pathogenic Organisms .....	—	3

1 sensitivity test was carried out.

#### Ambulance Facilities.

These are provided by the Northumberland County Council which is the local health authority.

Six drivers are employed at the Morpeth Depot where there are three ambulances and a sitting case car.

The area served includes the Borough of Morpeth, the western part of the Morpeth Rural District and part of the Castle Ward Rural District.

#### Nursing in the Home.

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Northumberland County Council is the authority solely and directly responsible for Home Nursing Services.

Three nurses are stationed in Morpeth. Their work includes both general nursing and midwifery, and they serve the Borough and the adjacent parts of the Morpeth Rural District.

#### Maternal and Child Welfare Services.

These are provided by the Northumberland County Council and clinics are held at the Health Centre, in Gashouse Lane. The services include Infant Welfare, Antenatal, Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic and Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics and dental treatment for school and pre-school children and expectant mothers.

A Child Welfare Clinic is held once a month at Morpeth Common Camp.

## SECTION C

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### **Water.**

Morpeth Borough is supplied with drinking water partly obtained from the Council owned borehole at the Gubeon, and partly from Tynemouth water undertaking. The water is treated by filtration and Chlorination before distribution into the Mains.

The supply during the year was sufficient and satisfactory.

The average daily consumption from the Borough's own supply was 66,400 gallons and the average daily intake from the Tynemouth supply was 265,260 gallons, the total daily consumption being 331,660 gallons.

The pumping and filtration plant have been daily inspected and their efficiency fully maintained and the water mains throughout the Borough cleansed by periodical flushing.

During the year, due to additional house building extensions were made to the water mains, as follows:

Development, East of Stobhill Gate (private housing estate).

113 lineal yards.	3" diameter Water main.
1,138 lineal yards.	4" diameter Water main.
906 lineal yards.	6" diameter Water main.

Spelvet Lane Housing Estate (Corporation). Scheme No. 9.

505 lineal yards.	3" diameter Water main.
160 lineal yards.	6" diameter Water main.

Development, Spelvet Lane (private housing estate).

297 lineal yards.	3" diameter Water main.
594 lineal yards.	4" diameter Water main.
328 lineal yards.	6" diameter Water main.

#### **Bacteriological Examination of Water.**

During the year 20 samples of water were taken in the Borough and sent to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination and all were satisfactory.

## **Chemical Analysis of Water.**

Two samples of drinking water were submitted to the public analyst for chemical analysis. The analyst's reports are as follows:

Chemical Results	Sample No. 1	Parts per Million.	
		Sample No. 1	Sample No. 2
Total solids dried at 180°C.	244	147	
Chlorine as Chlorides	21.3	12.4	
Free Ammonia	Trace	Trace	
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.03	0.06	
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.50	0.40	
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours at 80°F.)	3.2	7.4	
Total Hardness	155	90	
Permanent Hardness	20	25	
Temporary Hardness	135	65	
Lead and Copper	None	None	
Iron	0.1	0.2	
Appearance and Colour (Hazen Degrees 20)	Pale yellow and clear	Clear and pale orange yellow	
Smell and Taste	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	
Microscopical examination of deposit	do.	do.	
P. H. Value	7.0	7.2	

### **Report on Sample No. 1.**

This sample of water is of satisfactory organic purity. It is free from deposit and from odour or taste but its colour is very high.

I am of the opinion that the water is suitable for a Public supply.

(signed) W. Gordon Carey.

### **Report on Sample No. 2.**

This sample of water is of satisfactory organic purity and it contains no deposit for microscopical examinations.

The water is of deep colour but clear and, in my opinion it is suitable for drinking and domestic use.

(signed) W. Gordon Carey.

### **Byelaws.**

Byelaws for securing the prevention of waste, undue consumption, misuse or contamination of water supplied by the Council were adopted on 1st November, 1957.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.

Year ending 31st December, 1957.

	No. of Inspections during year.	No. of Defects or Contraventions of Byelaws.	No. of Informal Notices served.	Defects remedied by Informal Action.	No. of Statutory Notices served.	Defects remedied by Statutory Action.	Legal Proceedings.
<b>HOUSING</b>							
Structural Defects .....	393	36	4	35	1	1	
Defective Food Store .....	28	(Slum Clearance Properties)					
Dampness .....	6	5	1	5			
Overcrowding .....	120	2	—	—			
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>							
Insufficient .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Unsatisfactory .....	2	2	—	2	1	1	
<b>DRAINAGE</b>							
Insufficient .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Unsatisfactory .....	5	5	1	5	—	—	
<b>SANITARY CONVENiences</b>							
Insufficient .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Defective .....	8	8	3	8	—	—	
<b>GENERAL</b>							
Shops .....	185	—	—	—	—	—	
Food Premises .....	363	19	—	19	—	—	
Dairies .....	24	—	—	—	—	—	
Slaughterhouses .....	1045	—	—	—	—	—	
Tents, Vans, etc. ....	6	—	—	—	—	—	
Offensive Trades .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Keeping of Animals .....	13	—	—	—	—	—	
Insanitary Ashpits and Bins .....	113	113	—	113	—	—	
Offensive Accumulations .....	15	—	—	—	—	—	
Smoke Nuisances .....	6	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>TOTALS</b> .....	2332	190	9	187	1	1	—

The following is an analysis of the works effected (Structural):

	Total		Total
Ceilings repaired .....	2	Roofs repaired .....	1
Ceilings renewed .....	4	Walls repointed .....	3
Cooking ranges repaired .....	3	Walls replastered .....	3
Chimney stacks repaired .....	1	Window cords renewed .....	4
Coal stores repaired .....	4	Window sashes repaired .....	1
Dampness remedied .....	2	Window frames repaired .....	1
Eavesgutters cleansed and repaired ...	2	Washing coppers repaired .....	1
Fireplaces repaired .....	1	Water closets reconstructed .....	1
Flues repaired .....	3	Yard paving repaired .....	2
Inspection chambers repaired .....	2		

### Complaints.

Three hundred and twelve complaints were recorded during the year, all of which were dealt with. The Nuisance Abatement Notice which was outstanding on December 31st, 1956, was complied with during 1957. One case during 1957 required statutory action and an abatement notice was served which was outstanding at the end of the year.

Two informal Notices which were in abeyance in 1956 have now been complied with.

### Other Visits and Inspections under the Public Health Act, 193.

Infectious diseases .....	1	Markets .....	2
Disinfections .....	19	Licensed premises .....	10
Public Sanitary Conveniences .....	138	Housing sites .....	68
Courts, yards and passages .....	30	Offices .....	7
Water courses .....	17	Schools .....	6
Sewage disposal plants .....	56	Drain testing visits .....	94
Refuse disposal grounds .....	58	Drains tested .....	311
Places of Public Entertainment .....	10		

### Smoke Abatement.

There were no cases of excessive emission of smoke during the year.

### Verminous Premises.

There were 23 complaints of vermin pests during the year, all of which were dealt with. The following table shows the incidence of the types encountered.

Species	No.
Bed Bugs .....	5
Cockroaches .....	12
Flies .....	1
Woodworm .....	5

### Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Only two licenses to keep a Pet shop were issued during the year, one previous dealer having decided not to renew his licence. Several inspections were made during the year, but nothing was encountered requiring official action.

### Rag Flock Act, 1951.

The one building in the Borough which is registered for the storage of Rag Flock has not been used for this purpose during the year. It seems unlikely that it will be so used again.

### **Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.**

Destruction of rats and mice was fully maintained during the year in accordance with the standard practice laid down by the Infestation Branch of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The following table shows some details of the work done.

#### **Surface Treatment.**

	Local Auth. Property Council houses	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	Agricultural Property	Total
Inspections .....	111	1362	655	23	2151
Treatments by Local Authority .....	7	55	9	—	63
Treatments by private persons .....	—	—	1	—	1
Treatments by Area Agricultural Executive Committee .....	—	—	—	2	2
Notices served .....	—	—	1	—	1
Notices complied with .....	—	—	1	—	1

#### **Sewer Treatments.**

Two treatments of the Borough sewerage system including the disposal plant were also carried out during the year in accordance with the requirements and to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Infestation Division).

#### **Destruction of Moles.**

The destruction of moles is carried out by a specialist mole catcher retained by the Council. A few outbreaks at various places in the Borough were speedily dealt with.

#### **Despatch of Domestic Animals.**

During the year 4 domestic pets were dealt with by the department, some at the request of their owners, and some at the request of the Police Authorities.

#### **Drainage and Sewerage.**

During the year further expansion of the town's drainage and sewerage area was made owing to the new building on Stobhillgate and Kirkhill estates though the full impact of Kirkhill estate will not be felt until 1958.

This will place an even greater strain upon the already overtaxed storage and filtering capacity of the sewage treatment works.

It is anticipated however, that the long delayed extensions and improvements will be implemented during 1958.

The extensions to the Council's Sewerage system during the year were as follows.

New Admission Block, St. George's Hospital, Cottingwood Common.

Soil Sewers .....	417 lin. yards.	4" diameter.
	450 lin. yards.	6" diameter.

Private Housing Development, East of Stobhillgate.

Soil Sewers .....	422 lin. yards.	9" diameter.
	160 lin. yards.	15" diameter.
	440 lin. yards.	18" diameter.

Spelvet Lane Housing Estate (Corporation) Scheme No. 9.

Soil Sewers .....	696 lin. yards.	6" diameter.
Surface Water Sewers .....	516 lin. yards.	6" diameter.
	413 lin. yards.	9" diameter.

Private Housing Development, Kirkhill.

Soil Sewers .....	560 lin. yards.	9" diameter.
	470 lin. yards.	6" diameter.
Surface Water Sewers .....	313 lin. yards.	6" diameter.
	120 lin. yards.	9" diameter.
	407 lin. yards.	15" diameter.
	220 lin. yards.	18" diameter.

## **Refuse Collection.**

Refuse is collected daily by direct labour, and deposited at Deuchar Park tipping site. The potential tipping capacity is now being much reduced by the narrowing of the site and the Council of the Borough prudently sought and obtained an alternative site for future years. Very little trouble was experienced from the tip during the year, and immediate attention was given to rat infestations whenever they occurred. As one views the present extent of the finished section, one must comment, upon this unfolding piece of landscape beauty created from the discarded products of present day domestic and social life. When the project is completed one can envisage a green belt of great charm and attraction and an asset to the town.

## **Rivers and Streams.**

The river Wansbeck and other streams running through the Borough were again kept under careful observation during the year. Though no serious nuisance arose, a little anxiety was experienced at times from oil pollution on the waters of the Wansbeck. One source of this was discovered and eliminated.

## **Camping Sites.**

There are no camping sites in the Borough.

## **Swimming Baths.**

There are no swimming baths in the Borough.

## **Schools.**

There are five primary schools, one Secondary School, one Grammar School for Boys, one High School for girls and one Commercial College in the Borough. Inspections were made during the year and conditions found satisfactory. Those premises where meals are prepared and served were of a high standard of hygiene.

## FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

### 1. INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
i Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by L.A. ....	6	28	1	—
ii Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	45	38	2	—
iii Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) .....	—	—	—	—
Total .....	51	66	3	—

### 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found					No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector		
Want of Cleanliness .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—						
(a) Insufficient .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective .....	3	2	—	2	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total .....	3	2	—	2	—	—

## SECTION D

### TABULAR STATEMENT OF HOUSING FOR THE YEAR 1957.

#### **Houses completed during the year.**

(a) By Local Authority .....	40
(b) By other bodies or Persons .....	70

#### **Closing and Demolition.**

1. Houses demolished in Clearance Areas .....	19
2. Houses demolished not in clearance Areas .....	Nil
3. Houses closed, not demolished .....	6
4 Any other houses permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included in above	Nil

#### **Repairs.**

##### **Houses made fit by procedure under either Housing or Public Health Acts:**

1. By informal action .....	86
2. By owners, following statutory notice .....	2
3. By Local Authority in Default of owners.....	Nil
4. Demolition Orders revoked after reconstruction .....	Nil

#### **Houses Patched.**

1. Houses in Clearance Areas retained for temporary accommodation .....	Nil
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#### **Improvement Grants, Housing Act, 1949.**

	No. of Separate houses.
1. Applications submitted to local authority during year .....	5
2. Applications rejected .....	Nil
3. Applications approved .....	5
4. Total number of applications approved in Area since inception of scheme .....	96
5. Approximate average grant approved per house .....	£85

#### **Slum Clearance.**

This programme continued in 1957 and Clearance Orders in respect of 5 areas, involving 20 houses, were confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government. In one case, where an objection was lodged and a public inquiry held, the Minister modified the Order by excluding certain non-residential property.

From the beginning of the programme in 1955 until the end of 1957 the necessary legal action has been taken in respect of 72 houses which have now been discontinued as dwellings or are liable to be so discontinued when vacated. Action in respect of approximately a further 36 houses was proposed for 1958.

## SECTION E

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### **Milk Supply.**

There are five registered dairy premises and eleven licensed distributors of milk in the Borough.

Four licenses to retail Tuberculin Tested Milk, seven to retail Pasteurised Milk and five to retail Sterilised Milk were issued during the year. Two distributors of Pasteurised Milk who have dairy premises outside the Borough were granted supplementary licenses. Only one distributor in the Borough deals with ungraded milk produced within the Borough.

All dairies and milk distributors' premises were periodically visited and found generally satisfactory. Where necessary, advice was given on hygiene, methods and handling, and storage.

#### **Milk Sampling.**

Eight samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination and proper processing as shown hereunder.

Class of Milk.	No. of Samples taken	Tests applied.	Passed.	Failed.
Tuberculin Tested .....	4	Methylene Blue	4	—
Pasteurised .....	4	Methylene Blue and Phosphatase	4	—

#### **Ice Cream.**

There were thirty-six premises in the Borough registered for the sale of ice-cream at the end of the year.

The premises and apparatus were periodically inspected and no contraventions of the regulations found. Only one person manufactures ice cream on his premises, this being of the "Cold Mix" Type.

#### **Meat Inspection.**

During the year, inspection of meat was given full attention by the Meat Inspector both at the slaughter houses and the butchers' shops as circumstances required. The number of animals slaughtered was as follows:

Cattle .....	1667
Sheep .....	5263
Pigs .....	1484
Calves .....	60
Total.....	8474

## Meat and Other Foods.

### Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed (if known) .....	1607	60	60	5263	1484
Number inspected .....	1607	60	60	5263	1484
<b>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</b>					
Whole Carcasses condemned .....	—	—	—	12	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	395	8	—	228	90
Percentage of No. Inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci .....	24.6	13.33	—	4.56	6.13
<b>Tuberculosis Only.</b>					
Whole Carcasses condemned .....	1	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	24	16	—	—	3
Percentage of No. Inspected affected with Tuberculosis .....	1.55	26.7	—	—	0.2
<b>Cysticercosis.</b>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned .....	—	—	—	—	—

The weight of meat organs and offals condemned and surrendered during the year was:  
 24 tons 4 ewts. 0 qrs. 1 stone.

### Slaughterhouses and Licensing of Slaughtermen.

During the year the slaughterhouses at Staithes Lane were given maximum attention to maintain their efficiency. Repair works were done when required and regular cleansing carried out.

Sixteen slaughtermen's licenses were issued during the year.

### Food Premises.

There are one hundred and forty seven food premises on the Borough Shops Register. The various types of business are as follows:

Business	Number	Business	Number
Butchers .....	11	Fishmongers .....	2
Bakers .....	5	Fish Fryers .....	4
Confectioners .....	23	Grocers and Provisions .....	39
Chemists .....	3	Hotels and Licensed Premises .....	22
Cafes and Snack Bars .....	12	Mineral Water Works .....	2
Cooked Meats .....	10	Poulterers .....	1
Dairies .....	5	Wines and Spirits (Off Licence) .....	6
Fruiterers and Greengrocers .....	9		

The following are registered under Section 16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Business	Number	Business	Number
Butchers .....	11	Iced Lolly Manufacturers .....	3
Fried Fish Shops .....	4	Preserved Meats .....	10
Ice Cream Shops .....	36		

## Food Hygiene Regulations 1955-56.

### Inspection of Registered Food Premises.

During the year three hundred and sixty three inspections were made of food premises in the Borough. It is pleasing to report that the standard of cleanliness was generally satisfactory. In a number of cases still greater efforts were made to reach a higher standard of hygiene and efficiency, and credit is due to them for this commendable effort and progress, ensuring that Morpeth will hold its good reputation in the field of Food Hygiene.

The following table shows the various works of improvement carried out during the year:

Work Done	Number	Work Done	Number
Washbasins and sinks provided .....	5	Preparing benches renewed .....	2
Sinks renewed .....	2	Mixing apparatus renewed .....	1
Hot water installed .....	1	Ventilation improved (mechanical) ...	1
Rooms remodelled and glaze tiled ...	4	Boiling apparatus renewed .....	1
Refrigeration installed .....	2	Drainage improved .....	3
Cooking apparatus renewed .....	1	Premises cleansed and redecorated ...	6

### Educational Activity (Food).

As in the past, education in food hygiene in the Borough consisted of frequent personal visits by the Public Health and Food Inspector, with talks and discussions with Management and staffs, the distribution of leaflets and display of posters from the Ministry of Health, Central Office of Information.

The results of this method speak for themselves and are most encouraging, giving inspiration for greater efforts in the future.

### Food Inspection.

During the year, the following foodstuffs were examined, condemned and destroyed.

Commodity	Quantity	Reason for Condemnation	Weight lbs.	Weight ozs.
Apples .....	6 tins	Fermentation	31	1
Beans .....	11 tins	Blown Tins	10	15
Beef Paste .....	2 tins	Moulds	—	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
Butter .....	—	Rancidity	—	8
Cooked Gammon .....	10 tins	Decomposition	120	4
Chopped Pork .....	4 tins	Decomposition	13	8
Corned Beef .....	14 tins	Decomposition	57	12
Fruit .....	91 tins	Blown Leaking Tins	117	11
Fish .....	3 tins	Blown Tins	1	8
Ham .....	1 tin	Decomposition	2	0
Luncheon Meat .....	18 tins	Decomposition	36	4
Milk .....	14 tins	Rusted Leaking Tins	11	0
Meat .....	10 tins	Decomposition	39	12
Ox Tongue .....	5 tins	Decomposition	23	0
Spaghetti .....	6 tins	Punctured Tins	3	0
Soup .....	2 tins	Punctured Tins	2	0
Tomatoes .....	1 tin	Blown Tins	—	8
Vegetables .....	13 tins	Fermentation	21	15
Total Weight				497 5 $\frac{1}{4}$

### Disposal of Condemned Food.

Condemned Food was disposed of partly by incineration or deep burial and partly by conversion into fertilisers as appropriate. The latter class is treated with an officially recognised indelible dye prior to removal as a safeguard against its improper use.

### Ice Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations 1947-52.

There is no heat treated ice cream manufactured at present in the Borough. Periodical thermometer tests were made of ice-cream vendors' conservators for temperature-hold. No faults or defects were found.

## SECTION F

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Hospital accommodation for cases of infectious disease is now provided by the Regional Hospital Board at Walkergate Hospital, Newcastle.

**TABLE SHOWING ANALYSIS OF NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
UNDER AGE GROUPS**

Disease	Age unknown	Under 1 year	1—2 years	3—4 years	5—9 years	10—14 years	15—24 years	25—34 years	35—44 years	45—54 years	55—64 years	65—74 years	75 years & over	Total	Admitted to Hospital
Erysipelas ....			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Scarlet Fever ....	—	—	1	3	6	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—
Measles ....	—	—	5	7	20	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34	—
Whooping Cough ....	—	1	3	4	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	—

#### **Notifiable Infectious Diseases.**

It will be seen from the above table that notifications of infectious disease were very few in number and require no comment.

#### **Diphtheria.**

For the ninth consecutive year no case of this disease has occurred and it is now eleven years since any death was attributed to this cause.

#### **Diphtheria Immunisation.**

During the year 163 pre-school children and 63 school children completed a course of primary immunisation, while 66 pre-school and 410 school children received re-inforcing injections.

At 31.12.57. it was estimated that the immunity indices for the different age groups were as follows:

Children under 1 year .....	28.26%
Children aged 1-4 years .....	80.65%
Children aged 5-14 years .....	69.33%
All Children under 15 years .....	69.47%

## TUBERCULOSIS

### New Cases and Mortality during 1957.

Age Groups	NEW CASES						DEATHS					
	Resp.		Non-Resp.				Resp.		Non-Resp.			
	M	F	M	F	Total	M	F	M	F	Total	M	F
Under 1 year ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 - 4 years ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 - 14 years ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 - 24 years ....	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 - 34 years ....	—	2	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 - 44 years ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 - 54 years ....	2	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
55 - 64 years ....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 - 74 years ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
75 years and over ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age Unknown ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ....	—	—	3	3	1	—	7	1	—	—	—	1

Death Rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis per 1,000 of the population—0.09.

Death Rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis per 1,000 of the population in England & Wales—0.095

### MORTALITY FROM MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS DURING 1957

Site	MALES						FEMALES						
	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Total	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Total
Colon ....	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Breast ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	1	5
Stomach ....	—	1	—	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oesophagus ....	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Lymphatic and Haematopoietic System	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Prostate ....	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mediastinum ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Lung & Bronchus ....	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Pancreas ....	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bladder ....	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brain ....	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Liver ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Thyroid ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals ....	1	2	2	5	2	12	2	1	—	3	5	3	14

Death Rate per 1,000 of the population .....	2.35
Death Rate from Malignant Neoplasms of Lung and Bronchus (per 1,000) .....	0.27
Death Rate from Malignant Neoplasms of Lung and Bronchus in England and Wales .....	0.426
Death Rate from Malignant Neoplasms of all other sites (per 1,000) .....	2.081
Death Rate from Malignant Neoplasms of all other sites in England and Wales .....	1.668



